

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) Combing ring for an opening roller of an open-end spinning arrangement, comprising at least two surface coatings, one applied on top of the other, of which the bottom one is a wear-resistant, harder coating, while the upper one is a less hard, but fiber-friendly coating having a maximum thickness of 5  $\mu\text{m}$ , wherein the bottom coating is applied as a PVD coating ~~comprising so-called~~ and droplets of bottom coating material formed at an outer surface of the bottom coating are less hard than the bottom coating material thereunder, and the thickness of the top coating measures at the least the same as the height of the droplets.

2. (original) Combing ring according to claim 1, wherein the top coating is a chemically applied nickel coating.

3. (currently amended) A method of making a combing ring for an opening roller of an open-end spinning arrangement, comprising:  
forming a combing ring with combing structures thereon,  
applying a first wear-resistant hard coating to the coating ring as a PVD coating comprising droplets having a droplet thickness forming unevenness in the total thickness of the first layer, wherein the droplets formed at an outer surface of the bottom coating are less hard than the bottom coating material thereunder, and

applying a second less hard fiber-friendly coating on top of said first coating, said second coating having a ~~minimum~~ maximum thickness of 5  $\mu\text{m}$  and a thickness at least as great as the droplet thickness.

4. (original) A method of making a combing ring according to claim 3, wherein the second coating is a chemically applied nickel coating.

5. (new) Combing ring for an opening roller of an open-end spinning arrangement, comprising a wear-resistant, hard bottom coating applied by a PVD-coating comprising droplets, the droplets being imbedded in a less hard and less wear-resistant top coating which, together with the droplets, will be worn off during a run-in phase leaving a smooth surface of the wear-resistant and harder PVD-coating.

6. (new) Combing ring according to claim 5, wherein the top coating is a chemically applied nickel coating.